GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1806
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2005
AVALANCHES IN J & K
Kanodia Shri Mahesh Kumar;Pathak Shri Brajesh;Singh Shri Dushyant;Yadav Shri Parasnath

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated number of people, Civilian/para-Military Forces, died due to avalanches in Kashmir and other hilly States recently State-wise; and

(b) the relief and rehabilitation measures provided to the victims of avalanches, State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.REGUPATHY)

(a): As per information now received from the State Government 213 persons besides 14 ITBP and 6 GERF personnel have died due to heavy snow fall/avalanches in Jammu & Kashmir during February - March 2005. 30 people are said to be missing. No casualty is reported from other hilly States, so far.

(b): Jammu & Kashmir have received unprecedented snowfall and consequential avalanches in the month of February, 2005. The Ministry of Home Affairs, being the nodal Ministry, in association with the State Government and with emergency support by the Central Ministries/Departments, namely Border Roads Organisation, Health, Telecom, Power, Petroleum, Food & Civil Supplies and the Para Military Forces have monitored and coordinated the relief and rehabilitation measures. An amount of Rs. 50.00 crore was also released from National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) as an immediate assistance for the calamity. An amount of Rs. 50,000/- was also announced by the Prime Minister out of the Prime Minister`s National Relief Fund to the next of the kin of the deceased. The situation in Jammu & Kashmir has returned more or less to normal.

This Ministry has not been informed of any severe calamity of snowfall/avalanches by other States.